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Aug 28th 2018

Via ECFS Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1

Dear FCC,

I moved to San Francisco 3 years ago, and have since had Comcast and Sonic as ISPs. With comcast I paid for inconsistent service and pitiful customer relations. With sonic, I now pay more than twice as much for similar service, simply to have their customer support, which actually works. I'm holding out hope for permits in San Francisco to allow Sonic to install fiber in my building, but for now, just having their customer support makes the higher price worth it. But even with what I'm paying, the service (DSL over lines leased from AT&T) is despicable compared to other cities like SF abroad. I'm writing to encourage you to defend consumers like me (which is the FCC's job!) from damages that will come from big-telecom's lobbying.

In order for companies like Sonic to survive and thrive, and in order to encourage other telecom companies to make their products better, we need an environment that allows competition that allows smaller companies a chance to succeed.

So much of our daily life is built on the internet, and this will only become more true in the coming years. From my first smartphone before college until today (only 7 years), what is achievable on the internet has grown exponentially. My nascent career is only possible because of this change, and I strong believe that we need to be mindful of how we regulate it's continued growth.

As a country claiming to be the most progressive in the world, we owe it not only to our citizens but to the world over to set a model for a web that puts people first, not corporate profits.

Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Erik Islo